

IN THE ABSTRACT

Please replace the present Abstract with the attached Abstract.

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend Claims 1-9 and 13-27 as follows. The unamended claims are also reproduced below.

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1. (Amended) An image input device for picking up images of one or more subjects by switching of an image pickup direction, said image input device comprising:  
an image pickup [means for picking] unit adapted to pick up an image of a subject and for outputting an image signal corresponding to the picked-up image;  
an image pickup direction [switching means for switching] switch adapted to switch the image pickup direction of said image pickup [means] unit;  
a first detection [means for detecting] unit adapted to detect an angle of the image pickup direction and for determining whether the detected angle is equal to a predetermined angle; and